

PATENT  
Docket No. 223002006313  
Client Reference PP0063.021

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Jiny Nguyen

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Michael HOUGHTON et al.

Serial No.: 08/441,355

Filing Date: May 15, 1995

For: HCV IMMUNOGENS AND  
IMMUNOGENIC COMPOSITIONS

Examiner: M. Zeman

Group Art Unit: 1643

*official*  
*5/31/01*  
*#28/G*

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the request for Removing the Finality of the Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) mailed November 17, 2000. This amendment is further to the earlier preliminary amendments filed January 26, 2001 and April 3, 2001. Applicants respectfully request that these amendments be entered and the application considered on its merits.

Applicants and Applicants' attorney thank the Examiner for her courtesy in granting an interview and for her many helpful comments during the interview on April 20, 2001.